Special Railway Safety Fund

617. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Railway Safety fund (SRSF) has been created;

(b) if so, how much money has been allotted to this fund and what is the present balance lying at the credit in this fund; and

(c) how far the SRSF has been utilized since its creation till today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) a non-lapsable 'Special Railway Safety fund' (SRSF) of Rs. 17000/- crore has been set up w.e.f. 1.10.2001 to wipe out the arrears in renewal/replacement of over-aged assets such as track, bridges, rolling stock, signaling gears and some safety enhancement works, within a fixed time frame of 6 years from 2001-2002 to 2006-07. An expenditure of Rs. 10182.12 crore has been made from this fund till 31.3.2005. For the year 2005-06, an allocation of Rs. 3522 crore has been made. The balance amount from this fund is to be utilized during the year 2006-2007.

(c) The year-wise allocation and expenditure (Net) from SRSF is as follows:—

(Rs. In crore)

| Year | Allocation | Expenditure (Net) |
|---|---|---|
| 2001-02 | 1400 (Revised Estimate) | 1434.28 |
| 2002-03 | 2310 (Revised Estimate) | 2486.31 |
| 2003-2004 | 2350.66 (Revised Estimate) | 2583.77 |
| 2004-05 (Provisional) | 3645 (Revised Estimate) | 3677.80 |
| 2005-06 | 3522 (Budget Estimate) | 248.88 (Upto May' 05) |

Thus, a total of Rs. 10431.04 crore (provisional) has been utilized from SRSF since its creation till May, 2005.

**East Coast Railways**

618. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that East Coast Railway (ECR) with